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Extent of Mideast Arms Aid Shows Aims of Soviet Union

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NEW FACTS about Russian arms deliveries to the Kremlin's Arab client-states have now shed a world new light on the Kremlin's aims in the Mideast. The aims are to beat the Israelis to their knees, or to destroy Israel. These, one must further conclude, have been the aims ever since Israel's magnificent but humiliating defeat of the Kremlin's Arab clients in the Six Day War. The evidence is now clear, in fact, that the Russian pilots flying Mig-21s in Egypt represent only one stage in a long-range plan, which has always had these aims. After the Six Day War, it may be recalled, the Russians soon began arms shipments to Egypt and Syria on an emergency basis. Since the Egyptians and Syrians had virtually lost their armed forces, the arms shipments were interpreted as being purely defensive in purpose.

Unfortunately, this interpretation is now shown to have been pure, wishful. The quantities of arms the Russians have shipped are simply too enormous to be consistent with a defensive purpose. The aims have clearly been offensive from the outset. If you doubt this, consider the following chilling figures.

Before the Six Day War, trip to Israel, "both Nasser and the Syrians had 350. believed they had enough. Today, the Russians have provided Egypt with 1,600 tanks, and the Syrians with 1,000. Before the Six Day War, again, the Egyptians had 400 pieces of heavy artillery, and the Syrians, 200. Today, the Russians have provided the Egyptians with 1,600 heavy artillery, and the Syrians, with advisers, that no target in Egypt was safe from Israeli

THE CONTRAST in bombing attacks. The threat of those attacks was the deterrent that took the pressure off Israel's Suez defenses, for many months on end.

SEEN AGAINST this background, the recent Russian takeover of almost the entire air defense of Egypt, is even more sinister than it appeared at first. It is in fact a way of patching up the long-range plan, to bring the Israelis to their knees, or to crush Israel altogether, that went wrong last year when the war of attrition was checked.

The Russian pilots and SA-3s have already put Nasser's war of attrition back into high gear. How serious this is, may be hard for Americans to understand. For instance, the other day we read of 30 Israeli soldiers lost in a single fight on the Suez front, and no one was concerned. But for little Israel, that loss was exactly what a loss of more than 2,800 Americans would be to us.

In view of all these facts, the present intellectual climate in this country is utterly incomprehensible. The facts show the Russians have been long maturing and carefully preparing a cold blooded plan for Israel's destruction. By destroying Israel, the Russians undoubtedly expect to gain predominance in the entire Middle East. The proofs, by now, are abundant and glaring. Israel has nowhere to turn to help, except the United States.

But on this policy-making flank, President Nixon is uniquely immune from leftwing-liberal attack—one wonders why.

The Israeli Air Force checked the war of attrition, by proving to Nasser, and with 1,600 heavy artillery, that no target in Egypt was safe from Israeli